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25 APR 1958

Mr. John T. Conway
Acting Executive Director
Joint Committee on Atomic Energy
Congress of the United States
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Conway:

25X1A This is in reply to your letter of 11 April 1958 and confirms a conversation between [REDACTED] of this Office and yourself 18 April 1958.

The Air Intelligence Report you asked us to evaluate (IS-1179-58, 21 February 1958) is a tabulation of selected items from 1956-57 open Soviet literature prepared at the Library of Congress. The report is based essentially on an article which appeared in the November issue of the Soviet journal "Atomic Energy." Even though published in November 1957, it was obviously written much earlier and represented basically the Soviet plan for nuclear power production in the Sixth Five-Year Plan which was announced in February 1956.

This plan had been modified considerably by June 1957, when the World Power Conference was held in Belgrade. The station employing a gas-cooled, heavy-water moderated reactor was not mentioned. At Belgrade, it appeared that the Soviets intended to build two large stations using PWR's and one station with graphite-moderated reactors, plus the four experimental reactors mentioned in the original plan. Additional evidence that considerable changes had occurred in the original nuclear program by June 1957 is furnished by the following example. The Air Intelligence Report states that "Soviet publications show a growing interest in designs of atomic heat and power plants." At Belgrade, "newly-built atomic power stations in the USSR are not being considered for heat output for thermification purposes; they will be built at a considerable distance from large cities and large

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populated centers." In summary, the Air Intelligence Report is lacking in that it fails to emphasize the current intelligence on the Soviet nuclear power program. As [REDACTED] mentioned, we will have a detailed, inter-agency report on this program under preparation by the Joint Atomic Energy Intelligence Committee, which should be completed and forwarded to you in about four weeks.

In providing the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy with intelligence support, we have concentrated on keeping you current with our evaluation of the Soviet Atomic Energy Program on a national intelligence basis; i.e., in terms of agreed, inter-agency findings. In view of your expressed interest in receiving "on a continuous and current basis a list of reports" this "Agency may have pertaining to atomic energy matters," there is attached a list of such reports published since January 1957 or currently being printed. We will provide you with an updating of this list periodically.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

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Herbert Scoville, Jr.
Assistant Director

Attachment
List of Reports
(Secret)

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OSI/NED [REDACTED] pt (24 April 1958)

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